

decoding apparatus according to a predetermined decoding algorithm.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

5 Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the following detailed description when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings in which:

10 Fig.1 is a figure showing a principle of processes of an image coding apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig.2 is a figure showing principle of processes performed by an image decoding apparatus of an embodiment of the present invention;

15 Fig.3 is a block diagram of an image transmission system including an image coding apparatus and an image decoding apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention;

20 Fig.4 shows an example of a distance map; Fig.5 shows an example of an edge near region R;

Fig.6 is a flowchart showing an example of a smoothing process in the image coding apparatus;

25 Fig.7 shows an example of a smoothing filter;

Fig.8A-^{8C}~~8B~~ shows each example of a smoothing filter matrix, a unit matrix and a matrix for weight operation;

30 Fig.9 shows an example of a sharpening filter matrix;

Fig.10 shows an example of a method of correcting luminance in a smoothing process;

Fig.11 shows an example of a smoothing filter;

35 Fig.12 shows another example of a smoothing filter matrix;

Fig.13 shows an example of a mask region

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